

CLAIMS LISTING

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus configured to pleasingly display a flowing liquid, said apparatus comprising:

a reservoir for accommodating a volume of liquid;

a plenum mounted above said reservoir configured to accumulate a liquid pool;

a pump operable in a pump-on mode to pump liquid upwardly from said reservoir to form said liquid pool in said plenum;

a visibly open flow pathway sloping downwardly from beneath said plenum and configured to receive liquid from a plenum overflow for return to said reservoir; and

~~.....a controller for alternately defining a pump-on mode and a pump-off mode; said controller including a detector for defining said pump-off mode in response to the liquid level in said reservoir being less than a first height mark and for preventing definition of said pump-on mode unless the liquid level in said reservoir is greater than a second height mark.~~

a detector for providing a first signal when the liquid level in said reservoir is less than a predetermined first height mark and for providing a second signal when the liquid level in said reservoir is greater than a predetermined second height mark, where said second height mark is greater than said first height mark; and

a controller responsive to said first and second signals for setting a pump-off mode in response to said liquid level being less than first height mark and for preventing setting of said pump-on mode unless said liquid level is greater than said second height mark.

1           2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said reservoir includes at least one  
2 peripheral window for viewing the reservoir liquid level from outside said reservoir.

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4           3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said liquid flow pathway includes a  
5 ramp portion adapted to support a substantially smooth sheet liquid flow.  
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8           4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said ramp portion includes spaced  
9 lateral ridges for creating ripples in said sheet liquid flow.  
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11           5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said flow pathway includes a  
12 substantially convex surface portion adapted to support a substantially smooth sheet liquid  
13 flow.  
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15           6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said flow pathway includes a  
16 substantially concave surface portion adapted to support a substantially smooth sheet liquid  
17 flow.  
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20           7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said detector includes a first switch  
21 mounted proximate to said first height mark and a second switch mounted proximate to said  
22 second height mark.  
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25           8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said detector further includes at least  
26 one switch actuator configured to float proximate to the liquid level in said reservoir.  
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1           9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said controller is responsive to said  
2 first and second switches to define said pump-off mode when said liquid falls below said first  
3 height mark and to subsequently define said pump-on mode only after said level rises above  
4 said second height mark.  
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7           10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said switch actuator comprises a  
8 magnet.  
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10           11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of said switches is  
11 responsive to a magnetic field proximate thereto.  
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14           12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a housing having wall  
15 portions substantially converging upwardly above said reservoir.  
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17           13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said housing wall portions are  
18 substantially planar and define interior and exterior surfaces; and wherein  
19 said reservoir and said wall portion interior surfaces are sealed to prevent liquid  
20 leakage therebetween.  
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23           14. (Original)           The apparatus of claim 13 further including at least one decorative  
24 panel mounted on a wall portion exterior surface.  
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27           15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said liquid flow pathway includes a  
28 light transmissive portion.

1           16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising at least one light source for  
2 illuminating said liquid flow through said light transmissive portion.

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4           17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said at least one light source includes  
5 a light emitting diode (LED) mounted in said reservoir and sealed in a waterproof housing.  
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8           18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising a plurality of light sources  
9 adapted to illuminate said liquid flow in a variety of colors through said light transmissive  
10 portion.  
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12           19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including at least one light source  
13 energizable to illuminate said liquid flow pathway; and

14                   a controller for variably energizing said light source to simulate a flame flicker.

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1           20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus configured to pleasingly display a flowing  
2 liquid, said apparatus comprising:  
3               a reservoir for accommodating a volume of liquid;  
4               a visually open flow pathway having an upstream end and sloping downwardly  
5 to a downstream end proximate to said reservoir;  
6               a pump operable to pump liquid upwardly from said reservoir to said upstream  
7 end; and  
8               a detector for detecting the liquid level in said reservoir; and  
9               a controller responsive to said detector for switching said pump off in response  
10 to the liquid level in said reservoir falling below a first height mark and for preventing  
11 resumption of pump operation unless the liquid level in said reservoir rises above a second  
12 height mark greater than first height mark.  
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16           21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said reservoir includes at least one  
17 peripheral window for viewing the reservoir liquid level from outside said reservoir.  
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20           22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said controller includes first and  
21 second level detectors respectively mounted adjacent to said first and second height marks.  
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23           23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 further including an actuator configured to  
24 float proximate to the surface of the liquid in said reservoir; and wherein  
25               each of said first and second detectors is responsive to the proximity of said  
26 actuator.  
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1       24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said actuator comprises a magnet  
2 and each of said first and second detectors comprises a reed switch.

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4       25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 further including at least one substantially  
5 vertically oriented guide member mounted in said reservoir;  
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7               a substantially toroidal float mounted for vertical movement along said guide  
8 member; and wherein

9               said actuator is mounted on said float.

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11       26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said actuator comprises a magnet  
12 and each of said first and second detectors comprises a reed switch.

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14       27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said guide member comprises at least  
15 one tubular member; and wherein

16               at least one of said reed switches is mounted in said tubular member.

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1        28. (Currently Amended)    An apparatus configured to pleasingly display a flowing  
2 liquid, said apparatus comprising:  
3            a liquid reservoir;  
4            a pump coupled to said reservoir for pumping liquid upstream to a plenum  
5 configured to form a substantially still liquid pool, said substantially still liquid pool adapted to  
6 overflow onto an upstream end of a visually open flow pathway configured to return said  
7 liquid overflow to said reservoir; and  
8            a detector for detecting the liquid level in said reservoir; and  
9            a controller responsive to said detector for switching said pump off in response  
10 to the liquid level in said reservoir falling below a first height mark and for preventing  
11 resumption of pump operation unless the liquid level in said reservoir rises above a second  
12 height mark greater than first height mark.  
13 ~~a pump controller adapted to prevent said pump from running dry.~~

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17        29. (Original)        The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said reservoir includes at least  
18 one peripheral window for viewing the reservoir liquid level from outside said reservoir.

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20        30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said flow pathway includes a ramp  
21 portion adapted to support a substantially smooth sheet liquid flow.  
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24        31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 30 wherein said ramp portion includes spaced  
25 lateral ridges for creating ripples in said liquid sheet flow.  
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1        32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said flow pathway includes a  
2 substantially convex surface portion and a concave surface portion adapted to support a  
3 substantially smooth sheet liquid flow.

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